

Responses to Solicitation Questions
Mesoscale Atmospheric Instrument Support Services (MAISS)
RFP NNG14481818R
Set No.: 2

December 18, 2013

1. Regarding Predecessor Companies identified on numbered pages 92 and 93 of the Solicitation: Please clarify - does experience gained by MAISS key personnel at predecessor companies qualify as past performance if the predecessor company is not involved in this proposal or resulting contract?

RESPONSE: No, the experience gained by MAISS key personnel at a predecessor company does not qualify as past performance if the predecessor company is not involved in the proposal or resulting contract.

2. May a company submit a proposal if they did not inform the Government of their intent to submit an offer?

RESPONSE: Yes, a company may submit a proposal if they did not inform the Government of their intent to submit an offer.

3. Could you clarify the size standard requirements in the RFP? The small business size standard for a concern which submits an offer in its own name, other than on a construction or service contract, but which proposes to furnish a product which it did not itself manufacture, is 500 employees. Does this mean that the business size must be of \$14M (or less) and 500 employees (or less) or is the size standard \$14M (or less) or 500 employees (or less)?

RESPONSE: In accordance with clause K.1 FAR 52.204-8 ANNUAL REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS (JUL 2013), the small business size standard for NAICS 541330 is \$14M. In accordance with the Small Business Administration, "A size standard, which is usually stated in number of employees or average annual receipts, represents the largest size that a business (including its subsidiaries and affiliates) may be to remain classified as a small business for SBA and federal contracting programs. The definition of "small" varies by industry." For more information on NAICS codes and size standards please refer to the following website <http://www.sba.gov/content/small-business-size-standards>.

4. Enclosure A - Page 1 of 3, it says "The MLS instrument work is to be done in-house at GSFC under the management of the Sciences and Exploration Directorate (SED, or Code 600)." On Page 2 of 3 it says - "It is assumed that design and analysis

work shall be performed off-site at the contractor's facility. " Can you please clarify?

RESPONSE: To clarify, "The MLS instrument work is to be done in-house at GSFC under the management of the Sciences and Exploration Directorate (SED, or Code 600)" means that the government project management in charge of the instruments resides at GSFC. The resultant contract will be Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity. It is assumed that parts of the work that might be requested during the life of the contract will be either on-site (at GSFC facilities) or offsite (at contractor facilities.) Work such as design/analysis work, which is computer-based, could be requested to be performed offsite. Work such as instrument assembly and integration and testing could be requested to be performed onsite.

5. On Past Performance References – Page 102 of 104, it says "A "relevant" contract depends on the size and content of the contract with respect to this acquisition. ". Also on the same page it says "For a prime contractor's contract reference(s) to be considered at least minimally "relevant", it must meet/exceed an average annual cost/fee incurred of at least \$70,000." Usually we see a solicitation calls for similar size contracts in this case a \$4.8 mil for 5 year or approx. \$1mil annually but \$70K annual is well below the proposed contract size. Can you clarify the reasoning behind \$70K?

RESPONSE: Due to this MAISS requirement being set-aside for small business concerns and the minimum amount of supplies or services that shall be ordered during the effective period of this contract is \$250,000, NASA determined that an average annual cost/fee incurred of at least \$70K is a relevant dollar amount for recent prime contractor's contracts being considered as past performance.

6. A number of our past performance references are government customers that have asked that their information be marked "For Official Use Only" (FOUO). Will NASA accept our Volume 4 Past Performance with this marking?

RESPONSE: Yes, NASA will accept proposal information marked as "For Official Use Only" (FOUO).

7. Can we request for any possibility of extending the due date after 1st week in January. As it is a hard copy submission, we needed to mail this out latest by 27th and that means we may have to have the teams work through Christmas days.

RESPONSE: The due date for proposal submission will be extended to January 3, 2014, at 3pm. The RFP will be amended to extend the due date.